

REMARKS

It is respectfully submitted that the Examiner's assertion that our invention, as currently claimed, lacks novelty over US 3 972 062 is incorrect.

Our invention, as currently claimed, defines an electronic package that has a plurality of semiconductor devices; a printed circuit substrate having a plurality of printed circuit patterns and a lead frame, where the lead frame includes leads for providing an external connection for the package assembly and a non-lead island portion that forms a power interconnect between at least two vertical power transistor devices, thereby avoiding the need for the use of conventional wire bond techniques.

US 3 972 062 discloses two power transistor chips mounted in a copper alloy mounting channel (22) of a mounting assembly (20). However, once the power transistors have been attached to the channel (22), but prior to the transistors being mounted on a circuit, the channel is severed to provide individual transistor chips (col.3, lines 21-25) (i.e. once the channel is severed there is no electrical connection between the two power transistors). As such, US 3 972 062 only discloses an electronic package having a single power transistor mounted on a printed circuit board, as described in col. 3, lines 34-53.

As such, 3 972 062 does not disclose an electronic package having a plurality of semi-conductor devices, where at least two of the devices, are vertical power transistor devices, with a printed circuit substrate having a plurality of printed circuit patterns.

In the event that the Examiner deems the present application non-allowable, it is requested that the Examiner telephone the Applicant's attorney or agent at the number indicated below so that the prosecution of the present case may be advanced by the clarification of any continuing rejection.

Accordingly, this application is believed to be in proper form for allowance and an early notice of allowance is respectfully requested.

Please charge any fees associated herewith, including extension of time fees, to 502117.

Respectfully submitted,

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